

MINUTES
WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
June 23, 2008
7:00 P.M.

Present: Jane B. Allen, Chairman, David A. Rempell, Richard C. Steege

Absent: Ronald Turbin, Tom Costley

Others Present: Peter Bubriski, Cheryl Shanks, Kyle Johnson, Peter Fohlin, Tammy Daniels

1. **CHAIRMAN'S OPENING STATEMENT:** Ms. Allen congratulated the Clark Art Institute on the dedication of the Art Conservation Center. She also reminded residents that the July 4th parade will start at 11 a.m. on July 4.
2. **SELECTMEN'S MINUTES:** June 9, 2008 – Mr. Steege moved to approve the June 9, 2008 minutes. Ms. Allen seconded and the motion carried with one abstention by Mr. Rempell.
3. **PETITIONER'S REQUEST:** None
4. **ITEMS FOR SELECTMEN'S CONSIDERATION:**

A. Selectmen Appointments:

Community Preservation Committee Parks Commissioner – Mr. Steege moved to re-appoint David Rempell as Parks Commissioner on the Community Preservation Committee. Ms. Allen seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Affordable Housing Committee (6-30-09) Mr. Rempell moved to re-appoint Cathy Yamamoto to the Affordable Housing Committee for a one year term expiring 6-30-09. Mr. Steege seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Rempell moved to appoint Cheryl Shanks to the Affordable Housing Committee for a one year term expiring 6-30-09. Mr. Steege seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Mobile Home Rent Control Board (6-30-11) Mr. Steege moved to re-appoint Cheryl Shanks to a three year term on the Mobile Home Rent Control Board expiring 6-30-11. Mr. Rempell seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Municipal Scholarship Committee (6-30-11) Mr. Rempell moved to re-appoint Cheryl Yarter to a three year term on the Municipal Scholarship Committee expiring 6-30-11. Mr. Steege seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Cable Television Advisory Committee (6-30-11) Mr. Steege moved to re-appoint Anne Skinner to a three year term on the Cable Television Advisory Committee expiring 6-30-11. Mr. Rempell seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District (6-30-10) Mr. Rempell moved to re-appoint Scott Park to a two year term on the Northern Berkshire Solid Waste Management District expiring 6-30-10. Mr. Steege seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Fence Viewer (6-30-09) Mr. Rempell moved to appoint Cheryl Shanks to a one year term as Fence Viewer expiring 6-30-09. Mr. Steege seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Ms. Shanks was presented with a certificate confirming her as one of the town's three fence viewers. Mr. Fohlin gave a brief description of the duties of the fence view. He said that not long ago an important job in every American town was that of the fence viewer. There is nothing for fence viewers to do today. Originally the proprietors of a town would set up a common field for the community called a proprietor's field and that common field would be divided up much like today's community gardens. It was the job of fence viewers to make sure the fences were properly placed and maintained. State law requires two or more be named by leading town or city officials. If called to adjudicate a fence violation, the aggrieved parties were required to pay them \$5 a day.

B. Hoxsey Street Parking Regulations – At the June 9 meeting, the Board unanimously voted to ban parking on the west side of Hoxsey Street and put the east side of the street ban request from Police and Fire Chiefs Johnson and Pedercini respectively on the agenda for this meeting. Resident Peter Bubriski presented a handmade map showing all the parking available around Hoxsey Street and asked why parking would be needed on Hoxsey Street since there is a lot of parking behind Williams College. Mr. Bubriski pointed out all of the ample parking at private residences or within walking distance. He assumed parking might have been allowed on the street in the past because people could park on the lawn edges along the road. Now that the road has been repaired with newly installed granite curbs, cars have to park in the road. Chief Johnson's portable radar machine parked on The Knolls had counted an average of 2,025 vehicles a day and more than 14,000 from June 12 to 19. Mr. Rempell moved that parking be prohibited on both sides of Hoxsey Street. Mr. Steege seconded and the motion carried unanimously 3-0. Mr. Fohlin added that he will ask the appropriate Board to reopen the locked gate on Hoxsey Street to the large college lot. The gate was locked at Dagmar Bubriski's request due to traffic concerns.

C Confirmation of Re-appointments to Conservation Commission – Harold Brotzman and Richard Schlesinger – Mr. Rempell moved to confirm the re-appointments of Harold Brotzman and Richard Schlesinger. Mr. Steege seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

D. Water and Sewer Warrant – Mr. Rempell moved to approve the water and sewer warrant in the amount of \$192,497.88. Mr. Steege seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

5. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT: see attached.

6. OTHER BUSINESS: None

7. ADJOURN: Mr. Rempell moved to adjourn. Mr. Steege seconded and the motion carried unanimously. The next Selectmen meeting is Monday, July 14, 2008 – 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David A. Rempell.
Secretary pro tempore

DAR/kp